

CLAIMS

1) An electric gas lighter comprising a lighting circuit (5) for generating sparks at at least one burner (3); said lighting circuit (5) being connected to a power line (10) supplying a supply voltage (V_S), and having an enabling terminal (12) for enabling or disabling spark generation when connected to or disconnected from a reference-potential line (33) respectively; characterized by comprising hand-operated switching means (7) having at least one first terminal connected to said enabling terminal (12) of said lighting circuit (5) by a connecting line (35) defined by a single insulated conductor; and at least one second terminal connected to said reference-potential line (33).

2) A gas lighter as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said hand-operated switching means (7) comprise a number of hand-operated switches connected in parallel between said connecting line (35) and said reference-potential line (33); said hand-operated switches numbering one for each of said burners (3), and being operated by means of respective regulating knobs (4).

3) A gas lighter as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said lighting circuit (5) comprises:

at least one first input terminal (8) connected to said power line (10);

at least one output terminal (13, 13a) for generating sparks at said at least one burner (3);

a transformer (22) having a primary winding (22a) connected between a first and a second node (15, 16), and
5 at least one secondary winding (22b) connected to said at least one output terminal (13, 13a); and

electronically controlled switching means (24) interposed between said first input terminal (8) and said primary winding (22a), and having a control terminal
10 (24a) connected to said enabling terminal (12).

4) A gas lighter as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that said electronically controlled switching means (24) comprise a transistor having a first conducting terminal connected to said first node (15), a
15 second conducting terminal connected to said first input terminal (8), and a control terminal (24a) defining said control terminal (24a) of said electronically controlled switching means.

5) A gas lighter as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that said electronically controlled switching means (24) comprise a silicon controlled
20 rectifier.

6) A gas lighter as claimed in Claim 4, characterized in that said lighting circuit (5) also
25 comprises:

a second input terminal (9) connected to a neutral line;

a rectifier diode (26) connected between said first

input terminal (8) and said first conducting terminal of said electronically controlled switching means (24);

a capacitor (19) connected between said first and said second node (15, 16), downstream from said
5 electronically controlled switching means (24);

discharging means (21) connected in series to said primary winding (22a) of said transformer (22); and

voltage-dividing means (25) connected between said second conducting terminal of said electronically
10 controlled switching means (24) and said enabling terminal (12), and having an intermediate node connected to said control terminal (24a).